

REMARKS

Claims 2-14 are pending in this application, of which claim 14 has been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has indicated that FIGS. 10-13 should be labeled as "Prior Art". Formal corrected prints of FIGS. 10-13 are attached hereto.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over **Shields** in view of **JP '500** (both previously applied).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As noted in Applicant's response of February 25, 2005, although **Shields** and **JP '500** teach controlling a sound image position by phasing (synchronization) using delay elements, this results in only increasing a sound pressure in a specific direction or at a specific position and does not result in cancellation of interference between the individual transducers at signal control points, as in the present invention. Thus, none of the cited references teaches, mentions or suggests outputting a signal at the signal control point corresponding to the respective transducers or a sound interference canceling signal component for canceling an interference with the transducer serving as the other signal control points, as recited in claim 2 of the instant application, where claims 3-13 depend from claim 2, all of which have been allowed.

Accordingly, claim 14 has been amended to recite this distinction, and the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/801,897**
Response to Office Action dated May 18, 2005

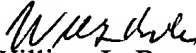
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 2-14, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP


William L. Brooks
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,129

WLB/ak
Atty. Docket No. **010280**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: Replacement Drawing Sheets FIGS. 10-13 (4 sheets)

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 10-13. These sheets, which includes FIGS. 10-13, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 10-13.